

Jed 895

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	Austria	REPORT NO.	<input type="text"/>	25X1A
SUBJECT	Third WFTU Congress in Vienna: Changes in WFTU Executive	DATE DISTR.	28 December 1953	
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1. A full report of the program and achievements of the Third WFTU Congress, which met in Vienna from 10 to 21 October 1953, is being prepared for distribution to member unions. Changes in the executive organs of the WFTU not reported in the Austrian Communist press are as follows:
- The Polish member of the Executive Committee, Zawadzki (fnu), was replaced by Wiktor Klosewicz. Mararu (fnu) replaced the Rumanian member Apostol (fnu).
 - Union Secretary Fernando Santi was appointed deputy to Giuseppe Di Vittorio, Chairman of the CGIL (Italian Labor Union Federation) to assist in intensified union activity in Italy.
 - Frantisek Zupka, formerly a member of the Executive Committee, retained his post in the General Council of the WFTU but has been reduced to a minor position in the Secretariat of the Central Council of the Czech Trade Unions. He also holds a subordinate position in the administration and direction of the WFTU School in Prague. Zupka's demotion allegedly is attributed to advanced age and ill health.
 - According to an official statement, members from the United States and Great Britain will not be named because these countries are treated as special cases. Unofficially, five seats in the Executive Committee and five supplementary seats (fuor Ergaenzungsmitglieder) are reserved for the delegates of the two countries. Considered for these posts are: Ben Gold, Harry Bridges, Jackson (fnu), President of the Fifth District of the UEW (United Electrical Workers) of the USA and Canada, and as representative of England, the General Secretary of the Miners' and Transportation Workers' Union (name unknown).
 - Representation of African, Asian, and Latin American unions also underwent changes. New posts in the Executive Committee were opened for delegates of

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several unions recently accepted into the WFTU. Delegates for several positions not filled because of disagreement during the congress must be selected by unions in the particular countries concerned.

2. Austrian union leaders were urged to increase their efforts to win workers of other political views, especially left-wing socialists. WFTU officials expressed the optimistic opinion that within a year work in Austria will have progressed to such an extent that the Austrian Federation of Trade Unions will be forced to recognize the WFTU.

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Comment: It has been reported that foreign delegates to the Third WFTU Congress, before boarding trains for home, "accidentally" lost most of the propaganda material distributed to them. They evidently wished to avoid embarrassment when submitted to border controls. Delegates of the "People's Democracies" also revealed uneasiness over possible consequences they might face at home because of the comparative freedom with which some discussions were conducted during the congress.

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